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Manufacturing practices rated among the best

by Anthony Ricchiazzi
Editor

Tobyhanna has earned the 2006 Best Manufacturing Practices Excellence Award.

Larry Halbig, chairman of the Best Manufacturing Practices survey team, recently presented the award, noting that 61 percent of Tobyhanna's processes were certified as best practices.

The high end for companies surveyed is 60 percent, says Dr. James Meyl, Total Army Quality administrator, Business Management Directorate.

The Best Manufacturing Practices Center of Excellence (BMPCOE) is part of the Navy's Office of Naval Research. The Center works with the University of Maryland and the Department of Commerce to help companies by identifying, researching, and promoting exceptional manufacturing practices, methods, and procedures.

"The BMPCOE conducted a survey at Tobyhanna July 10-14; four survey teams focused on design, test, production, facilities, logistics, and management processes," Meyl said. "BMP Survey Teams surveyed 41 processes. Twenty five of the 41 were identified as Best Practices and 16 were identified as Information Items with the

- Best practices**
- Corporate Philosophy and Communications; Strategic Planning
 - Lean Organization
 - Lean Deployment; Automatic Identification Technology
 - Customer Focus Team
 - Commercial Off-The-Shelf/Non-Developmental Item Repair
 - Business Development Program
 - Environmental Management System
 - Industrial Operations Facility
 - Emergency Savings Performance Contract
 - Flexible Computer Integrated Manufacturing
 - Automatic Test Equipment
 - Reverse Engineering Cell
 - Help/Service Desk
 - Emergency Roster Information System
 - Process Certification of Product, Process Lines, and Work Centers
 - Forward Repair Activities
 - Rewarding and Recognizing the Work Force, Public-Private Partnering
 - Workers' Compensation Program
 - Voluntary Protection Program
 - Veterans Administration Partnership
 - Metrics-That-Matter
 - Skills Training and Workforce Sustainment

potential to become best practices."

An Information Item is a practice that does not have a proven track record or is not significantly different from practices of other organizations. Meyl noted that an Information Item could become a best practice.

"The award shows our customers and potential customers that our business processes are as good as or better than the leading manufacturers," Meyl said. "It's also great visibility for Tobyhanna because BMP sends out information on the organizations it surveys and publishes results on its Web site. The BMP Web site receives up to 70,000 hits per day. This provides national recognition for the depot."

The BMP was established by the U.S. Navy in 1985 to establish a way to document processes, techniques or innovative uses of equipment or resources that have proven records of success in providing significant improvement in cost, schedule, quality, performance, safety, environment or other measurable factors which impact the health of an organization. The program was expanded to the entire U.S. industrial base in 1990.



Jim Romaniello checks the Reticle Positioning Unit on an M60 tank gunner's thermal sight in the Electro Optics Night Vision Division. A manufacturing practices survey team reviewed the Lean efforts in the division and the results helped Tobyhanna Army Depot earn the 2006 Best Manufacturing Practices Excellence Award. Romaniello is an electronics mechanic in the Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance Directorate. (Photo by Tracey Condi)

"Once the program was expanded, the BMP's mission is to act as a national resource to foster the identification and sharing of best practices being used in government, industry and academia, enabling the U.S. industrial base to operate at a higher level of competitiveness," Meyl said.

"This is well-deserved recognition for the Tobyhanna Army Depot work force; they're responsible for creating and maintaining these 'best practices,'" said Brad Jones, chief of staff. "We're in a highly competitive environment and have to be 'best in class' in all areas to thrive in the years ahead."

NEWS NOTES

Bible class available weekly

A Bible study class is held every Thursday in the Nina Newhart Blood Room, Building 1A, from noon to 12:30 p.m. All interested employees are welcome. Participation is considered a lunch break. For more information, call Phillip Carter, X56710.

Hockey tickets on sale

Tickets for the Wilkes-Barre Scranton Penguin exhibition and regular season and hockey games are on sale at the One Stop Shop. Tickets cost \$15.

Seats are located in section 114, row G; section 112, row M; and section 108, row D. The seats are available for all home games. The first preseason game is 7:05 p.m. Friday.

Volunteers show they care

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Cooking contest kicks off annual fund drive

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Depot gets green

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A look beneath the surface reveals inner beauty

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

by
Chaplain (Maj.) Philip Smiley
Installation chaplain



I have an old Boston Rocker rocking chair that my mother gave me when my son Andrew was born. She wanted Nancy and me to rock our children as she rocked her children, and we cherish it. It's an important part of our family. It's been in my family for over three generations, and we intend to pass it on to our children when the time comes.

The interesting thing about our old rocker is how it's managed to survive. We got it just before I went to college, and it's been through more moves than I can count, or even want to remember (14 years as a civilian pastor, moving every three to five years, and 10 years on active duty for the Army, moving every three years). And every move we made took its toll.

When we first got it, the back of one rocker was caught under the hutch and snapped off. After repairing it, one of the leg dowels splintered under more abuse, requiring even more extensive repairs. But the greatest insult my poor, long-suffering rocking chair suffered was when we moved from Fort Jackson, S.C., to Hanau, Germany.

As we were packing, one of the movers (unbeknownst to me) tried packing the rocking chair in a box that was too small. His solution: pull off the rockers and stuff them into the

box. One rocker came off, but the repaired rocker wouldn't budge. So, he broke it off at the leg dowel and packed everything in the box. He wrapped everything up in packing paper so I wouldn't notice it until it was unpacked.

When we arrived in Germany, I was furious. Needless to say, I had more repairs to make. So I decided to do it right, and repaired all the joints, not just the broken leg dowel and rocker. I repaired it in such a way that it won't ever come apart again, I assure you.

As you might have guessed, I love working with wood, especially old furniture. It is my hobby, and nothing makes me happier than restoring damaged pieces to their original glory.

That's what I'm in the process of doing with my old rocker. It still needs a lot of tender loving care, but I have a plan. I'm including a picture of what it looks like right now, and at a later time I will feature it again in its fully restored form. Right now it's stripped and bare, awaiting a lot of sanding, stain and finish. But when it's done, it'll be a beautiful work of art.

Human beings are a lot like my old Boston Rocker. We all get pretty banged up and damaged as the years go by. A hard time here, a traumatic event there; financial troubles, problems with

the kids; they all leave their marks. But underneath it all, we're all beautiful, interesting, valuable individuals with important contributions to make.

A part of my job as your chaplain is to help everyone find their worth, looking beneath the dents and scrapes, finding the true value of who and what they are. Just like my old rocking chair, it's rewarding to find the beauty hidden beneath the surface.

I would like to leave you with two thoughts.

First, try to find the depth and value in those you spend time with every day. Look beneath the surface at the dents and the bruises. Look for what you may not have noticed before. You'll be surprised by what you find.

And second, make sure you are actively pursuing a hobby. It re-energizes you, helps you find the positives in life, and gives you something to brag about at work. I plan to do a little bragging myself when I finish my rocker.

Until my next article, I encourage you to find the good in life, in other people and in yourself. Make a difference. Be a positive force in the world that brightens everyone's way. Find the beauty hidden beneath the surface.

Guarding information is everyone's responsibility

by Ed Beemer
Army Office of Information Assurance
and Compliance

It's really very simple. If we keep our information and communications secure, lives will be saved. Operational Security and Information Assurance (IA/OPSEC) are not just Army programs. They are a mindset that requires the constant attention of every officer, Soldier, civilian employee, contractor and family member.

It was easier to keep a secret when Soldiers carried muskets and marched onto open fields in tight formation. You deployed patrols to ward off scouts, you armed and escorted your messengers and you kept your Soldiers out of taverns. Today, it's a little more complicated.

Technology has given us great communication capabilities. It has also opened the door to eavesdropping and spying opportunities where the enemy can be half a world away and reading or listening in as if seated next

to you. Technology has also given us great capabilities in securing our information flow. Firewalls, encryption and PKI have taken over the jobs of patrols and armed messengers on the networked Army of today. There are those who would tell you that technology is the ultimate answer to any security challenges the Army might have. The fact is, in an open environment, that's simply not the case. There is and always will be the human factor.

It's always easy to fall victim to the pressures of deadlines, pressure from higher ranks and civilian leaders. It's faster to cut corners and bypass policies and procedures. It's easy to justify actions that happened "just once." But no break in the IA/OPSEC perimeter is justifiable. There's too much at stake.

If Army personnel don't follow IA/OPSEC policies and procedures, we will remain vulnerable. The enemy is smart, technically able and, if given an opportunity, will exploit our mistakes. Our cyber and communication defenses are being probed every nano-second from

a wide variety of sources: state sponsored intrusions, terrorists and the neighbor next door. The only true protection is human vigilance, and the only person who can ensure that happens is you.



DOIM supports ACS mission

I would like to acknowledge the contributions of the Information Management Directorate to the Auxiliary Communications Shelter mission published in the Sept. 12 *Tobyhanna Reporter*.

DOIM provided guidance and technical expertise in the early stages of the design and development of the ACS. They helped identify hardware and software to be integrated into the shelter, and reduced project risk with their advice.

Mark Capitano
Chief, SATCOM Engineering Division
Production Engineering Directorate

The Tobyhanna Reporter is an authorized, biweekly publication for members of the Department of Defense.

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TOBYHANNA REPORTER

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TEAM TOBYHANNA EXCELLENCE IN ELECTRONICS

Volunteers help local charities

by John Ross
Day of Caring chairman

On Sept. 7, 20 Tobyhanna Army Depot employees donated a day of their annual leave to participate in a Day of Caring sponsored by United Way organizations in Monroe, Lackawanna, and Wayne counties.

They were among hundreds of volunteers who fanned out across the area to perform service projects at a soup kitchen in Scranton, the Goose Pond Boy Scout Camp, the Dunmore and Carbondale YMCAs, the Wayne County Habitat for Humanity and scores of other social-service and community agencies.

The Day of Caring is designed to raise awareness about participating United Way charities and to help kick off the annual Combined Federal Campaign.

I would like to thank our volunteers for continuing to support this very successful program.



From left, Bill Delling, Stanley Tasselmyer, Charlotte Lent and Dave Guccini helped Habitat for Humanity build a house during the United Way annual Day of Caring. (Photo courtesy Stanley Tasselmyer)

I know all of the assisted agencies appreciate the volunteer efforts of everyone who helped out this year, including four depot employees who participated in the Luzerne County Day of Caring in May.



Paul Ward, left, and Tom Stasko paint picnic tables while volunteering at Goose Pond Boy Scout Camp. Volunteers throughout Northeastern Pennsylvania have contributed about \$1 million worth of in-kind labor and support for Lackawanna, Luzerne and Monroe county agencies. (Photo by Gerard Dougher)

Afghanistan: NATO makes big gains, but threats remain

by Gerry J. Gilmore
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — NATO forces have given the Taliban a good thrashing in the extremist group's traditional home in southern Afghanistan, but threats to that nation's long-term stability remain, NATO's supreme allied commander in Europe told a Senate committee here Sept. 21.

NATO's International Security Assistance Force has proved to be a viable presence for stability in Afghanistan by combating Taliban extremists and assisting in national reconstruction efforts, Marine Gen. James L. Jones said during his testimony before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

Jones, who also is commander of U.S. European Command, recalled that NATO began its Afghanistan mission in the national capital of Kabul in 2003. ISAF operations expanded into northern Afghanistan in 2004, he continued, and then moved west in 2005.

On July 31, the ISAF took responsibility for Afghanistan's southern region. About 20,000 NATO troops are deployed in Afghanistan, Jones said, and 37 countries are involved in reconstruction efforts.

"In the not-too-distant future I feel confident that NATO will also expand to the eastern region, which will complete the circle," Jones said, providing NATO, "responsibility for stability and security through the totality of the landmass in Afghanistan, with a very special relationship with Operation Active Endeavor."

Operation Active Endeavor will be the U.S.-led coalition that conducts separate, high-intensity counterterrorism operations in Afghanistan, Jones explained. ISAF will continue to play a security role, he said, as it simultaneously tends to the training of Afghan police and military forces, as well as assisting with reconstruction projects.

Jones saluted the spirit of teamwork displayed in Afghanistan among U.S., coalition and Afghan forces, noting he's "quite confident that it will continue that way in the future."

The Taliban in southern Afghanistan have engaged in open battles with NATO forces in recent months in an attempt to eject them from their home turf, Jones noted. The recently concluded Operation Medusa was successful, he noted, in soundly defeating Taliban elements in Kandahar province.

Canadian, American, British, Dutch, Romanian, Danish, Estonian, Polish and Portuguese troops involved in Operation Medusa "performed extraordinarily well," Jones pointed out.

NATO forces suffered causalities during the fighting in

southern Afghanistan, Jones said. He praised their bravery and expressed his condolences to their families.

The Taliban risked open battles with NATO forces because they felt pressured to do so, Jones said, noting that up to then, there hadn't been large numbers of anti-terrorist forces deployed in the region.

Yet, ultimate success in Afghanistan isn't predicated solely upon a military solution, Jones said. Training of soldiers and police, as well as reconstruction and reform efforts, he said, also play a major role.

He described the training of Afghan National Army soldiers as "the most successful pillar" of Afghan reconstruction efforts, to date. Afghanistan's army now has 30,000 soldiers, Jones said, noting the total number of trained troops will eventually top out at around 70,000.

"The Afghan people are proud of this developing army," Jones said. "They identify with it," he said, because it has earned the reputation of a capable, strong institution in Afghanistan.

But, "while we're making some progress, in my judgment much more needs to be done in the training of (Afghan) police forces," the four-star general said. Afghan police must be provided adequate training, equipment and pay, he noted, and steps should be taken to weed out departmental corruption.

Another pressing issue involves the low pay of prosecutors in Afghanistan's judicial system, which makes them susceptible to corruption, Jones said.

"This is simply a situation that cannot be allowed to stand if we're serious about judicial reform," Jones said.

However, Jones said he worries most about Afghanistan's growing narcotics business.

"Afghanistan does not need to be a narco-state, but it is, unfortunately, well on its way," Jones said. More Afghan farmers, he explained, are ceasing to cultivate traditional crops in favor of growing higher-profit-producing opium poppies.

"We need to find the right means to ensure that farmers can economically grow and sell legal produce in addition to developing an overarching and understandable way ahead in the overall fight against narcotics," Jones said.

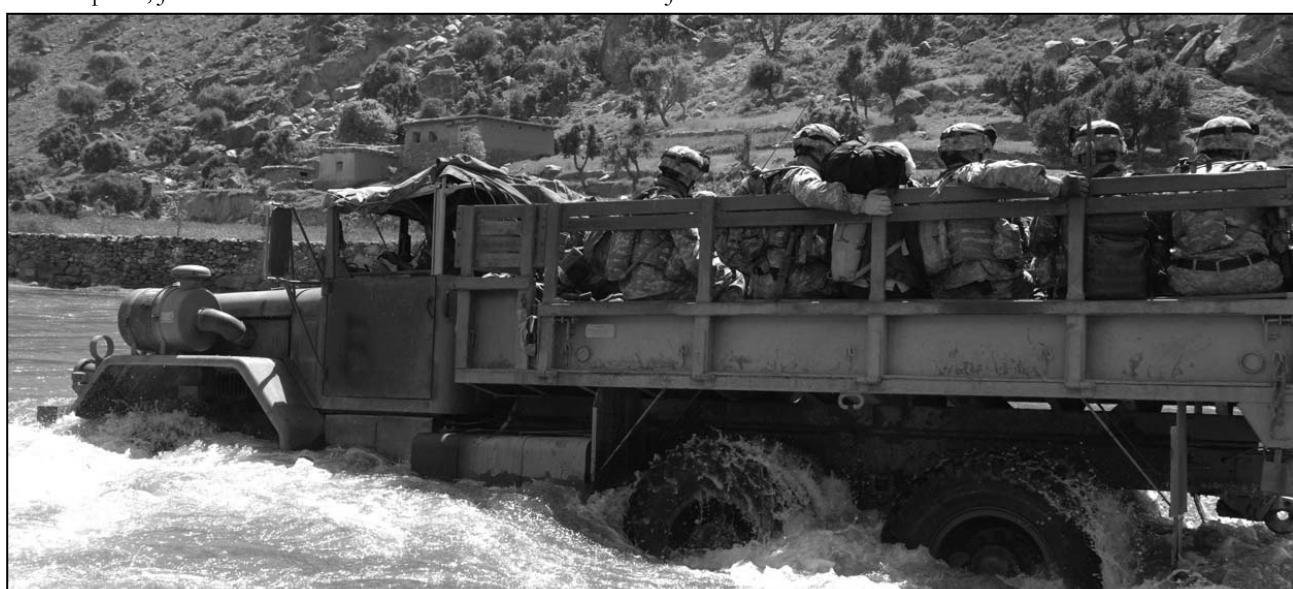
Jones said about 90 percent of Afghanistan's narcotics products end up in illegal drug marketplaces across Europe.

And, "the money comes back to Afghanistan and other places where terrorism is evident," Jones noted. Terrorists use drug money to buy components for improvised explosive devices and other weaponry that kills or wounds U.S. and allied troops, he said.

Current estimates say this year's Afghan poppy harvest will exceed last year's by as much as 59 percent, Jones said.

"This is a problem, and a situation that is going in the wrong direction," he said.

Proper training of Afghan police, moving ahead with judicial system reform and developing an effective counter narcotics program constitute "three of the most important things that must be done in Afghanistan in the near future," Jones said.



U.S. Army Soldiers ford the Pech River in Pech Valley, Afghanistan, during operations earlier this year. The Soldiers are attached to Charlie Company, 1st Battalion, 32nd Infantry Regiment. (DoD photo by Spc. Joshua Balog)



What's cookin'?

Nearly 1,000 employees lined up to taste more than a dozen chili recipes at the annual Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) opener, the Chili Contest, held Sept. 18 in the main aisle of Building 1A. Twenty-two organizations offered mild, hot or sizzling chili, baked goods, hot dogs and beverages, or literature about their organizations to help employees decide where their donations will go for CFC. Winners are: Best Decorated – CFC Committee. Fireman's Choice – Fire Department. People's Choice: 1st place – Lean; 2nd place – Veteran's Council; 3rd place – tie between AUSA and Firefinder. CFC, which is authorized to solicit contributions from government employees and military personnel for thousands of federally qualifying charities, will be accepting donations until Nov. 17. This year's goal is \$155,000. These charities include military, veteran and patriotic organizations, human and civil rights organizations, and environmental, religious and cultural organizations. The CFC committee will host a \$5 spaghetti dinner from 11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m. Oct. 12 in the Post Restaurant. (Photos by Tony Medici)



Bush remains steadfast on Iraqi progress

WASHINGTON—There's no question that parts of Iraq are dangerous or that the mission there is tough, but President Bush said Sept. 19 he's convinced progress continues and vowed that the United States won't abandon the Iraqis.

Bush said U.S. Ambassador to Iraq Zalmay Khalilzad and Army Gen. George W. Casey, commander of Multinational Force Iraq, filled him in on the latest conditions on the ground in Iraq.

"They believe that there's no question, violence," the president said. "They believe that al Qaeda is still creating havoc. They know there (are) people taking reprisal" and that Saddam Hussein loyalists continue to threaten people and carry out attacks.

But neither Khalilzad or Casey, or the Iraqi government, agree that a civil war is under way, he said. And "they also believe that the Baghdad security plan is making progress."

The president said he measures progress in Iraq in a variety of ways: whether the unit government is moving forward, whether it has developed a plan to resolve the issues it faces and whether its security forces are doing their jobs.

But another measure is the resilience of the Iraqi people and whether they are working together to support their unity government, Bush said. That government is intact and moving forward as it makes tough decisions, the president said. "And we'll stay with them ... because success in Iraq is important for this country," he said.

"We all want the troops to come home as quickly as possible," Bush said. "But they'll be coming home when our commanders say ... the Iraqi government is capable of defending itself and sustaining itself and governing itself."

Bush said he'll continue to listen to ground commanders and to make decisions in Iraq based on their recommendations, not popularity polls. The president said he has great confidence in Casey and Army Gen. John Abizaid, commander of U.S. Central Command. Both understand the difficulties of the task in Iraq.

Those committed to stopping Iraq's progress, or the progress of other young democracies being challenged by extremists, all recognize the stakes in Iraq, Bush said. "The ideologues understand that liberty ... will trump their dark vision of the world every time," he said. "And that's why we call it an ideological struggle. ... It's a vital struggle." (American Forces Press Service)

Materials handler claims depot quarterly award

A Production Management Directorate employee earned the Tobyhanna Army Depot Employee of the Quarter award for the second quarter of fiscal year 2006.

Robert Pollish, a materials handler in the directorate's Automated Storage and Retrieval System Division, earned the award for developing a forklift dual control system.

It allows the driver to operate the forklift going forward or backward while facing the direction of the movement. The system frees forklift drivers from having to strain to look behind them when backing up. His system has been patented.

Pollish received a plaque and a \$500 On-The-Spot Cash award.

He was also selected as the U.S. Army Communications-Electronics Life Cycle Management Command's Team C4ISR Employee of the Quarter, Junior Category, fiscal year 2006, first quarter.

His control system and award were featured in a *Tobyhanna Reporter* article published on March 7.

All civilian employees are eligible for the Employee of the Quarter Award. Winners can also receive an optional special parking space for the quarter in addition to the cash award and plaque. Workers selected as an employee of the quarter are eligible to compete at the U.S. Army Communications-Electronics Life Cycle Management Command-level.

To nominate an employee, co-workers must submit AMSEL-TY Form 2035-R-E to the Incentive Awards office, mail stop 5081. For further information, call Lisa Pavlishin, Incentive Awards program manager, X59249.

Iraqi troops more effective every day, general says

by Sgt. Sara Wood, USA
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON— Iraqi security forces are becoming more capable every day and are fighting and dying for their country, where the future depends on them and their fellow citizens, the commander of U.S. Central Command said Sept. 18.

"I come to the conclusion that Iraqis are fighting and dying for their country, that the government has pledged their sacred honor and their future to making this work," Army Gen. John Abizaid said in an interview with CNN's Wolf Blitzer.

Iraqi forces now number more than 300,000, and while they still have some bad days and challenges to overcome, they are steadily improving, Abizaid said. He also noted that numerous Iraqi officials have visited Washington, D.C., lately and have all expressed confidence and commitment in the fight against terrorism.

Critics who say the U.S. needs more troops in Iraq are of the mindset that U.S. troops should be doing all the work, Abizaid said. Leaders on the ground believe, however, that Iraqi troops must continually take more responsibility for their own country, and that the ultimate solution will not be solely military, he said.

"It's not a matter of the application of military forces only," he said. "You've got to have governance moving forward. You have to take down the militias. You have to apply military forces when you need to. Over time, you need to apply more and more Iraqi military and governance power to the equation. We can do that."

Sectarian violence is still a problem in Iraq, Abizaid acknowledged, but areas where U.S. and Iraqi troops have applied pressure have seen a slight drop in violence, and more progress will be made over time.

"Things in a counter-insurgency (mission), take time to mature politically and militarily, and we're confident (that) with the measures we're taking, we can be successful," he said.

The goal of coalition efforts in Iraq is for Iraq to emerge as a responsible member of the international community—a country that will respect the rights of people and reject terrorism and violence, Abizaid said.

"(Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki) is going to build an Iraq for all Iraqis, and it's a hard thing to do," Abizaid said. "They can do it."



UP ON THE ROOF

by Jacqueline Boucher
Assistant Editor

Tobyhanna environmentalists believe they are the first to plant a garden on the roof of a Department of Defense building.

Funding from the Joint Services Initiative allowed depot officials to install a vegetative (green) roof on one wing of the Headquarters Building this summer. The Joint Services Initiative provides funding for projects that would save money, positively impact the environment and be transferable across the services.

The demonstration project is part of a plan to improve the energy performance of buildings, reduce storm water runoff, extend roof life and contribute to a healthier environment.

A green roof, as the name implies, is a roof covered in plants.

"Whoever thought your roofer would one day be a botanist?" said Randy Didier, Environmental Management Division (EAD) chief.

Workers covered the 14,141 square foot roof space with about 1,500 pre-planted modules; recycled black plastic trays measuring four feet long, two feet wide and four inches deep. Sixteen plants were placed in each module at the nursery and cared for until they were shipped here.

"We asked for sedum perennials because they are drought and flood resistant, retain water, and have shallow root systems. Sedum is a low-maintenance shrub that does well in this climate," said Mike Parrent, pollution prevention program manager, Industrial Risk Management Directorate.

The green roof technology offers a flexible and modular design that can be adjusted and rearranged after installation. Modules can be moved to deal with a maintenance issue and then put back in place.

"Anytime you can save the government money and cut back on energy consumption, especially in this day and age, it's a plus," Didier said. "Research suggests we can expect up to a 30-percent reduction in energy costs down the road."

Reports also claim a green roof will extend the life of the existing rubber roof covering. Didier indicated the rubber roof is reported to last up to three times longer than the stone ballast it replaced. The stone was removed and will be used in a variety of depot projects.

"Ultraviolet rays break down the rubber and sealants on ballast-type roofs," said Don Rusnak, engineering technician for the Public Works Directorate. The green roof modules should provide better protection once the plants spread out and cover the area, he said.

The environmental staff will monitor the savings and health of the roof for a full year, ensure the plants remain viable and then analyze the results before proposing future roof replacements.

"If this works as expected, the technology will be incorporated into the depot's master plan," Parrent said. "We will be comparing the green roof to another wing of the building."

Shortly after the project was completed, Didier noticed a marked difference in temperature from the green roof and the control roof. At the time, he estimated it was 80 degrees on the green roof and close to 120 on the rock ballast [control] roof.

"When you're walking up there, it's comfortable, cooler," he said.

Soil and dense vegetation cover have a great insulation value, according to the Maryland Department of Environment Web site. Working together, the two elements enhance the energy efficiency of a building and reduce noise. Department documents also noted that the vegetation cover protects the roof from direct sun exposure and prevents the roof surface from heating up. The growing media, plants and layers of trapped air in a green roof system serve as sound insulators.

The modular system can be installed on any new or existing roof surface in good condition with structural capacity.

EMD personnel worked closely with the Public Works Directorate's Engineering Division, which manages all depot facilities to include 1 million square feet of flat roofs.

"We wanted their input as soon as we started considering the idea of the vegetative roof," Didier said. "If we could, we'd put green roofs wherever possible, but we have to make sure the roofs can hold the additional weight and provide a short payback period."

Standard practice at the depot is to perform a structural analysis on any building to ensure the roof can handle added weight. However, since parts of Building 11 were designed to accept a third floor, it was the logical choice for this green roof demonstration project.

There was no question the roofs would have enough load capacity to support the vegetative roof, according to Ed Kovaleski, Engineering Division chief.

"Plus it [Building 11] offered the perfect opportunity to use the other wing as a control, because the features are so similar," he added.

Installation work performed on the building was also the least intrusive to the mission and took fewer steps to ready the roof, according to Rusnak.

Rusnak and Kovaleski visited other companies that used this type of technology.

"We didn't want to take any chances with safety or risk that structures could be damaged," Rusnak said. "So far everything looks pretty good."

The depot submitted three proposals to the Joint Services Initiative and was given the green light to install the roof and begin using fuel cell generator.

"Our green roof idea was number one on the funding list," Parrent said. "It'll be nice to look back on this one day and realize our work had a positive impact on the planet."

The fuel cell generator proposal involves replacing a diesel backup generator with a fuel cell generator that will serve as the division's source of backup power. If technology proves out, the long-term goal is to replace all the depot's backup generators, which use diesel fuel, with fuel cell generators.



As the sedum plants grow they will spread out and cover the entire module. The plants are drought resistant, flood resistant and able to stand up to high winds. (Photo by Steve Grzezdzinski)



It took workers seven days to cover the 14,141 square foot space with about 1,500 pre-planted modules. (Photo by Tony Medici)

WELCOME TO THE DEPOT

Name	Title	Organization
Roger Groves	Electronics equipment spec	D/C3/Avionics
John Hankin	Materials handler leader	D/PM
Robert Matthews	Mason	D/PM
Rebekkah McCawley	Human resources specialist	CPAC
Paula Mesaris	Safety/occupational health spec	D/IRM
Robert Migatulski	Sheet metal worker	D/SIS

THANKS

Dear Friends,

My family and I would like to express our deep appreciation for the many kindnesses that were extended at the time of Mom's passing. Thank you for all that you did to let us know how much you cared. The flowers were beautiful and very much appreciated. The monetary gifts will be given to the Elmdale Bible Church and Cemetery, Child Evangelism of Lackawanna County, and Hospice. All of these organizations/charities were dear to Mom's heart. Also, thank you for your cards and words of comfort. Mom truly was a special lady and her love and devotion to our family was such a blessing. Thank you again for everything.

In appreciation,
Len, Judy and Cassandra Diehl
and the family of Jean White

VISITOR GIVES DEPOT 5 STARS

I am a retired Coast Guard chief warrant officer 4. My wife (a former Army nurse) and I visit Caesars Cove Haven in Lakeville often and have the opportunity to drive by your facility on our way home. Our perception of you from the side entrance (near the park) was that of a small and obscure base (like most Coast Guard posts). Today, we took the opportunity to tour your facility. We are impressed. And now that we are home in Cape May and have viewed your Web site, we are even more impressed.

Our impression now? Professional! Five Star all the way. Every person we encountered ... friendly, professional, personable, helpful.

During a short stay with friends in Blakeslee, we read of your change of command and civilian awards. Congratulations to all, although those articles offered no hint of your size or importance to our nation's defense.

Congratulations and thank you for your service. We hope to visit again in the future.

Arthur and Diana Miller
Cape May, N.J.

Ronald Pugliese is the chief, Tactical Communications Facilities Branch, Electronic Services Division, Systems Integration and Support Directorate.

As a supervisor, Pugliese oversees 24 electronics mechanics who overhaul, repair, modify, test, install and provide field support of electronics systems in shelters, vans and associated equipment, including the AN/TSW-7A Air Traffic Control System, AN/TRC-170 Waveguides, OE-254 Antennas, and facilities such as the Electro Magnetic Pulse Hardened Dispersal Communications Unit.

Prior to his current position, Pugliese was an electrician supervisor for the same division. He began his depot career in July 1985 as an electronics worker in the Electronic Fabrication Branch.

Pugliese served three years in the U.S. Air Force as an air policeman assigned to the 5700th Air Police Squadron, Howard Air Force Base, Panama.

He has earned superior performance awards, letters of appreciation, in addition to an Air Force marksmanship medal, and Good Conduct Medal.

He is a native of Pittston and a 1965 graduate of Pittston High school. He resides in Falls, with his wife, Judy. They have one daughter, Gina, 26.

He is a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, American Legion, Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund, Vietnam Veterans of America, Tobyhanna Veterans Council, and Association of the United States Army (AUSA).



Pugliese



Mikitka



Scanlon

He enjoys spending time with his family and working on his antique vehicle.

Marty Scanlon is chief of the Production Test Measurement Diagnostic Equipment Support Branch, Operations Support Division, Production Engineering Directorate.

Scanlon manages 13 employees who repair and maintain numerous test stations throughout the depot, including the Integrated Family of Test Equipment.

Prior to his current position, Scanlon was an electronics mechanic supervisor, Sidewinder Missile Branch, Tactical Missile Division, Command, Control and Computer Systems Directorate.

Scanlon started his federal career at the Newark Air Force Base Aerospace Guidance and Metrology Center Feb. 23, 1987. The Ohio base closed in 1996. He repaired guidance systems for the F-111 Aardvark as well as guidance systems for Minute Man II and Peacekeeper intercontinental ballistic

missile systems. He started working in the Sidewinder Guidance and Control repair field at Letterkenny Army Depot in 1996. A reduction in force prompted a move to Tobyhanna in 1998.

A native of Southfield, Mich., Scanlon graduated from Granada Hills High School, Granada Hills, Calif., in 1983, and is taking courses at Lackawanna College. He resides in Gouldsboro with his wife, Terri, and three children: Andrea, 17, Phil, 17, and Shelby, 13.

Scanlon enjoys spending time with his family and riding motorcycles.

Steven Mikitka is the Electrical Recap Support Branch chief, Electronic Services Division, Systems Integration and Support Directorate.

As chief, he supervises 38 electricians and electrical workers who overhaul electronics service vans and shelters.

Prior to his current position, Mikitka was an electrical supervisor and leader for the same division. He began his career at Tobyhanna in September 1983.

Mikitka served two years in the Army as a telephone lineman, 759th Military Police Battalion, Fort Dix, N.J. He is a 1973 graduate of Freeland High School, Freeland. He and his wife, Karen, reside in Pocono Summit. They are the parents of Ashley, 22, Ryan, 20, and Danielle, 16.

Mikitka is a member of AUSA. His hobbies include riding motorcycles, boating, hunting, photography and home improvement.

'Universal' ID card part of federal security upgrades

New CAC card to be issued to all federal employees

by Gerry Gilmore
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — New identification cards to be issued to Defense Department employees beginning next month will help standardize workforce identification and security access systems across the government, a senior Defense Department official said here Sept. 15.

The new common access card eventually will be issued to all federal employees and is part of a standardized, secure credentialing system that was mandated after the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks, Mary Dixon, deputy director of the Defense Manpower Data Center in Arlington, Va., said during a joint interview with American Forces Press Service and the Pentagon Channel.

Starting Oct. 27, the new "super CAC" ID cards will be issued to employees over the next three years as the old cards reach their expiration dates, she said.

The new cards interface with a secure, encrypted credentialing database and are interoperable for personal identification as well as access to federal buildings and facilities, she said.

However, each facility will still determine who is authorized access, Dixon pointed out. Information embedded on the cards is quickly referenced and compared to centrally stored personnel security clearance data, she said.

"It is an effort to try to improve the security in the federal government," Dixon explained. The new cards also help employees secure their

computer networks, she said, as well as provide improved security for federal buildings, military installations and campuses.

"So, I can use this card, not just in the Department of Defense, but it can be read in other agencies," Dixon said. "If they choose to give me access, they can then read my card," she said.

The new card features the user's photograph, like other cards now in circulation, Dixon said. But its computer chip also will contain two encrypted fingerprints, as well as a unique personal identification number.

The new card can be read, either by swiping it or by waving it near a special card reader, she said.

Issuance of the new card has the potential of reducing the number of agency security badges, Dixon said, because federal agencies will refer to a standardized credentialing system. However, agency security administrators still have the authority to approve or deny access.

"The card, on its own, does not entitle you to any access to anything," Dixon explained. "It is an authentication token."

"Every time you use the card, it is authenticated, meaning somebody checks to make sure that that card is a 'good' card issued in the Department of Defense to you, and that it is still valid," Dixon said.

As always, employees who believe their government-issued ID card has been lost or stolen are required to notify security administrators, Dixon said, who then deactivate the card.

This ensures that cards reported stolen or missing can't be used in DoD, she said.

COMMUNITY BULLETIN

Editor's Note: The Community Bulletin provides an avenue for depot and tenant employees to advertise van or car pools, and for-sale items. Money making items such as rentals and personal business will not be accepted.

Information must be submitted via e-mail to Jacqueline Boucher@tobyhanna.army.mil, or written items can be mailed to the Public Affairs Office, mail stop 5076.



VAN/CAR POOLS

- **East Stroudsburg, Mount Pocono, Tobyhanna:** 1 opening, van, 7 passengers, 5/4/9, along routes 209, 447, 940 and 611, call Karl Lyons, X56536, Tina Williams, X59229 or Richard Steele, X59269.
- **Mountain Top:** 2 openings, van, 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., "A" placard, non-smoking, call Mike Henry, X56754.
- **Stroudsburg, Lehigh Valley:** 1 opening, van, 7 passengers, 5/4/9, meets at the Snydersville Diner, call Ann Super, X58749.
- **Wilkes-Barre:** 1 opening, van, 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., call Wesley Dervinis, X56839.
- **Moosic, Greenwood, Minooka:** 2 openings, van pool, 5/4/9, door-to-door pickup, call Matt, X56733.
- **Kingston, DuPont:** Parish transportation needs a bus driver, call Mark Kordoski, X58549.
- **Parsons, Miners Mills:** 1 opening, van, 7 passengers, 5/4/9, house-to-house pickup, "A" placard, non-smoking, call Diane Miller, X58980 or Charlie Cardimona, X58555.
- **Wilkes-Barre:** 1-2 openings, car, 5/4/9, first Friday off, "A" placard, leaves Sam's Club at 5:45 a.m., call Jean, X56261 or 510-7692.
- **Wind Gap, Moorestown:** individual seeks van/car pool, 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., call Barry, X56228.
- **Sugarloaf, Drums, Conyhgam, St. John's:** starting new, 7 passengers, van, non-smoking, 5/4/9, "A" placard, call Brian Sauers, X56978.
- **Dallas Shavertown, Exeter:** 1 opening, 7 passengers, van, non-smoking, 5/4/9, contact Bob, X59184 or send e-mail.
- **Old Forge:** 1 opening, 7 passengers, van, non-smoking, 5/4/9, house-to-house pickup, call Cathy or Ron, X56745.
- **Clarks Summit:** 2 openings, van, non-smoking, 5/4/9, call Paul Sacco, X56725 or Rich Joyce, X56774.
- **Glen Lyon, Nanticoke, Plymouth, Ashley and Sugar Notch:** 1 opening, 6-passenger, van, pick up at Route 309

Submissions must include a name and telephone extension. Only home phone numbers will be published in the Trading Post section.

Ads will be published in four consecutive newspapers. It is the customer's responsibility to update or renew items listed in the Community Bulletin.

For more information, call Jacqueline Boucher, X58073.

across from McDonalds at park and ride in Wilkes-Barre, departure time is 5:40 a.m., 5/4/9, second Friday off, call Ray Tarnowski, X57331 or 736-6383.

- **Back Mountain, Dallas:** 1 opening, 7 passengers, van, non-smoking, 5/4/9, also accepting names for waiting list, call Woody, X58876 or Mike, X59103.



TRADING POST

- **Ford van:** 1989, E150, 5.0, V8, 302, auto, 107K orig miles, new transmission, shocks, brakes, exhaust, very good condition, asking \$2,195 OBO, call Raymond at 427-8613.
- **Free:** To a good home, cat, male, 4 years old, gray tabby, 9 lbs., named Tigger, fixed, not declawed, has an overall nice demeanor, but doesn't like his ears and tail pulled, owner not able to keep due to new baby, call Brenda Diaz, 239-7515.
- **Moving sale:** House, bi-level, 15 minutes from depot in Mt. Pocono, \$219,000; love seat, \$10; computer desk and chair, \$5 each; wood Formica kitchen table, \$15; 2 wood lamps, \$5 each, call Terry Williams, 839-9428.
- **Lawn tractor:** International Harvester, model 100, 10hp, 42-inch cutting deck, creeper gearing, working condition, asking \$200, call Bob, 842-2550.
- **Printer:** HP Photosmart 7960, paid \$300, asking \$200, like new, includes cartridges; #58 HP ink jet photo cartridges in boxes, \$35 each. Call 620-1550.
- **Tires, wheels:** Kelly Wintermark Magna Grip HT snow tires mounted on 15x6 Honda Civic wheels, used one winter season, 2,200 miles, paid \$237, asking \$160, call 636-3642.
- **Free:** double bed, very good condition, mattress, box springs, bookcase headboard, call 842-8063.
- **Furniture:** Dining table, dark, solid maple, oblong, 2 leaves, 6 captain chairs and matching hutch, \$500 for set or \$250 each if sold separately; Broyhill living room set, 4-person couch, 2-person love seat, recliner, blue fabric, flecks of pink accent, \$300 for set; 4 maple end tables with drawer,

\$25 each; 25-inch Zenith color console television, cable ready, \$100; 2 brass table lamps, \$10 each; and 1 sky-blue ginger jar lamp and matching shade, \$5, call Paula, 961-2796 after 6 p.m. weekdays.

- **Vehicles:** 1990 Pontiac Grand Am, 2.5 liter, automatic, sedan, 137k miles, asking \$400; 2000 Chrysler Sebring LXI, 2.5 liter, V-6, automatic, A/C, P/W, P/L, dual airbags, C/C, 16-inch aluminum wheels (5,000 miles on tires), P/S, tan/leather interior, AM/FM/cassette, asking \$4,000 (with JVC AM/FM/CD/MP3, amplifier and JL W-6 12-inch subwoofer, asking \$4,500), call 233-0988.

- **Motorcycles:** 1983 Yamaha Maxim XJ550, 4 cylinders, 6 sp, new rear tire, needs chain, asking \$850 OBO; 1993 Honda XR250, new chain and front tire, asking \$1,000; and 1978 Yamaha DT175, just rebuilt, needs rear tire, asking \$400, call 233-0988.

- **Vehicles:** 1993 Honda Civic, red, 199k miles, 35-40 MPG, 5-speed manual transmission, 4 new tires, asking \$2,800; 2005 Mazda Tribute, 19,000k miles, leather interior, sunroof, power everything, heated seats, tow package, like new, asking \$21,000, call Jen, 894-0117.

- **Vehicles:** 2000 Suzuki Intruder 1400, 4,300 miles, full windshield, saddle bags, excellent condition, garage kept, asking \$3,800; 1994 Ford Escort, hatchback, 82k miles, good condition, clean, asking \$1,600; and 1986 Chevy Corvette, t-top, excellent condition, 56k miles, garage kept, automatic, asking \$10,800, call 722-0503 or 401-4439.

- **Van:** 2000 Chevy Venture, 3.4 liter, V-6, front wheel drive, 7-passenger, seats removable, ABS, less than 62k miles, clean car fax, clean, privacy glass, CD player, call Gene, 344-4731.

- **Truck:** 2001 Ford Explorer, SLS, 85k miles, excellent condition, tow package, 4WD, 23.5 MPG, work mid-shift and vehicle is parked in main lot each morning, must sell, asking \$8,400, call Bill Carpenter, 476-6142 or 262-0428.

- **Truck cover:** Fiberglass Tonneau cover, fits 2000-2004 Dakota crew cab, new \$900, asking \$200, call 688-0764.

- **Macaw:** 4-years old, blue and gold, speaks well and often, plays peek-a-boo, loves to be cuddled and enjoys the outdoors and people food very much, requires a lot of attention, asking \$1,200 OBO, comes with cage, play stand and all his toys and accessories, call Patricia at 883-9981.

- **Household items:** gas stove, Kenmore washer and dryer, sofa bed and recliner, 2 upright curios, floor-model television, Princess House crystal, mountain bike, clothes, women's leather jacket, microwave, tools, and kitchen appliances, call Bobbi Jo Gable, 240-0810 or 836-6690.

Cheney: America determined to defeat terrorism

by Gerry Gilmore
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON—Five years after 9/11, the United States remains determined to protect the homeland and defeat global terrorism wherever it rears its head, Vice President Richard Cheney said here Sept. 19.

The terrorists reveled in the five-year anniversary of the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks on the United States, Cheney told a U.S. automobile industry group, noting a senior al Qaeda lieutenant used the occasion "to issue more words of hatred for this country."

Terrorists reject civilized man's value for human life, Cheney pointed out. Instead, he said, the terrorists "hold to an ideology that feeds on the pain of others and glorifies murder and suicide."

The enemy also wants to impose "a dictatorship of fear," Cheney said, "under which every man, woman and child would

live in total obedience to a narrow and hateful ideology."

Terrorists know they can never defeat the United States military in a fight. Instead, he said, they stealthily blend in among populations and seek to take innocent lives.

The terrorists' ideology and mode of operations was abundantly demonstrated in Afghanistan, Cheney said, where al-Qaeda-affiliated Taliban extremists murdered and brutalized innocent Afghan citizens who didn't agree with their worldview. And after five years of fighting in Afghanistan, Iraq and elsewhere, the terrorists remain convinced they can wear down America's will to continue the battle, Cheney said, recalling the words of al Qaeda mastermind Osama bin Laden.

"Bin Laden has predicted that the people of the United States simply do not have the 'stomach' to stay in the fight against terror," the vice president said.

However, America and its allies liberated

Afghanistan and Iraq from brutal, despotic regimes, Cheney pointed out. And the United States, he declared, will not allow the terrorists to regain a foothold.

"Having liberated those countries from tyranny, we will not permit new dictatorships to seize power and give terrorists a base from which they can strike the United States and other free nations," Cheney vowed.

America is keeping its word to Afghans and Iraqis who'd once been terrorized by inhuman governments, Cheney said. Spreading democracy and hope across the world, he said, is the best way to defeat violence, resentment and terror.

"By standing with our friends, we are making a better day possible in the broader Middle East and helping to build a safer, more peaceful world for our children and grandchildren," Cheney said.

The American people are generous, decent, and are defended by heroes, the vice

president said. Cheney saluted the nation's servicemembers, noting they can be proud of their wartime service.

The United States remains on the offensive against the terrorists, Cheney said, noting U.S. counterintelligence efforts are paying dividends. For example, the terrorist surveillance program has "helped to detect and prevent possible terrorist attacks against the American people," he said.

Indeed, many things have "gone right" for the United States and its allies since the anti-terror war began, Cheney said. He vowed that America wouldn't quit the fight.

President Bush is determined to see the war through to the defeat of the terrorists, the vice president said.

"The president is serious about the threat, serious about his duty to protect the country," Cheney said. "He will not relent in the effort to track the enemies of the United States with every legitimate tool at his command."

Playoff action sizzles, finals begin next week

Fans cheer
Noontime Softball
League action as
Engineering's Rich
Pace records a force
out on Admin's Beau
Highfill. Engineering
won the game, 5-1.
The playoffs continue
this week. Last
year, Power Sources
claimed the league
title by sweeping
Engineering in the
best-of-seven series.
(Photos by Steve
Grzezdzinski)



Citizen-Soldiers making a difference on the border

by Sgt. Jim Greenhill
National Guard Bureau

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. — The Department of Homeland Security has seen a drop in the number of illegal immigrants crossing the U.S. border with Mexico for the first time, and the National Guard has made the difference.

So said Michael Chertoff, secretary of that department, during the 128th General Conference of the National Guard Association of the United States Sept. 18.

"For the first time, we are seeing a reduction in the flow of illegal immigrants," Chertoff said. "This is the first real ... sign we've had of success since we began this effort. It could not be done without the National Guard."

The National Guard's support to the U.S. Border Patrol through Operation Jump Start – "dramatic help," Chertoff called it – is just one reason Americans hold Guard members in high esteem, he said.

"Perhaps never has the critical role of the

National Guard – at least in my lifetime – been demonstrated to the people of this country as it has during the past year," the secretary said. "The National Guard is now recognized by the public as a group of heroes, a group that can step up and handle all missions, whether it's something that nature throws at us or something that terrorists throw at us, overseas or here at home, or whether it's just the pressure of economic migration at the southern border."

Calling the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks a turning point in our lifetimes and a reflection of a war that was already underway between a radical ideology of hate and the United States and the West, Chertoff said the Guard immediately stepped up.

"I remember what a comfort it was to see the National Guard on duty," he said.

Because the Guard faces so many important missions, it will not be detained on the border, he said, outlining how his department is permanently boosting border security.

"We face a very significant challenge," Chertoff said. "Thousands of miles, some of it through some very inhospitable terrain, and a problem with respect to managing the border that goes back 20 years."

The DHS fix includes using new technology such as sensors and vehicle barriers, increased manpower, additional tactical infrastructure such as fences, roads and lights, and stronger enforcement of the nation's immigration laws.

"We have at long last ended the pernicious policy of catch-and-release," Chertoff said. "That was demoralizing, and it was self-defeating. Now we catch, detain and remove everybody who is here illegally that we catch at the border."

Some 9,000 Border Patrol agents were on duty Sept. 11; more than 12,000 are now; 18,000 are promised by the end of 2008, he said.

"Within a short period of time, we will be announcing a new 21st century high-tech program to bring the kinds of tools that we've refined in other areas in national defense to the border," Chertoff said.

Ramping up a permanent improvement in border security takes time, he said.

"The National Guard has stepped in to give us the kind of immediate support that we have long expected the Guard to be able to offer."

Guard members are providing surveillance, operating detection systems, working in entry identification teams, analyzing information, assisting with communications and giving administrative support to the Border Patrol.

"This literally multiplies the eyes and ears that help the Border Patrol agents on the front line deter and respond to illegal entries," Chertoff said. "What this allows us to do is to take the Border Patrol away from these critical but back-office missions and put them on the line where they can actually intercept, apprehend and remove the migrants ... coming across illegally."

Up to 6,000 troops have been helping the Border Patrol since August, a mission expected to continue for about two years.

"As we bring the Border Patrol on line, we will be excusing you from duty at the borders of this country," the secretary said.

Meanwhile, the National Guard is working with DHS on a second vital task.

"The second is getting our emergency preparedness and response capabilities ready for another catastrophe, whether it be a natural catastrophe or a manmade catastrophe," he said.

Chertoff said local response takes the lead. "State and local governments have the primary lead in a disaster," he said. "That includes the National Guard when called up by the governor."

However, the secretary said synchronization between all agencies must improve.

"Never again do we want to have federal, state and local officials introducing themselves for the first time when the hurricane is hitting," he said.

The National Guard has taken a lead in fixing that for the nation:

- National Guard Bureau and DHS officials are working together to prepare for disasters.

- The two entities are synchronizing assessment and communications capabilities.

- NGB and DHS have completed joint training exercises.

- NGB and DHS have worked together on evacuation planning.

- NGB liaison officers are stationed fulltime at DHS headquarters in Washington and at the Federal Emergency Management Agency and in Louisiana, where the Hurricane Katrina recovery continues.

- NGB is supporting information collection and reconnaissance.

- The Guard has participated in pre-hurricane exercises in five FEMA regions.

Chertoff thanked Guard members for what they do for America.

"You blend uniquely," Chertoff said, "and your civilian skills and your military determination and training are wrapped together in a spirit of volunteerism which has characterized this nation from its founding over 200 years ago."



Sgt. Leland Lowery watches for movement on the horizon at the U.S.- Mexican border in San Luis, Ariz., July 30. Lowery and more than 200 Soldiers assigned to the 252nd Combined Arms Battalion, North Carolina Army National Guard, are deployed to Marine Corps Air Station Yuma, Ariz., to train and work with the U.S. Border Patrol in support of Operation Jump Start. (Photo by Tech. Sgt. Brian Christiansen)